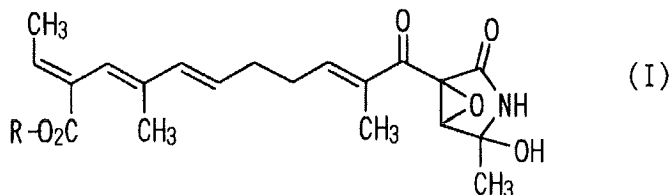


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled.)

2. (Canceled)

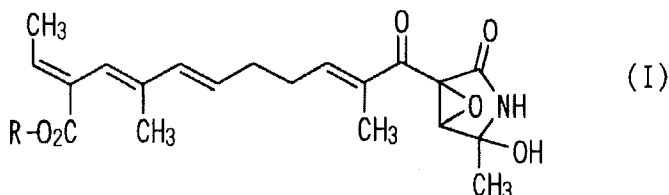
3. (Previously Presented) A compound represented by the following general formula (I)



wherein R in the general formula (I) is a tert-butyl group.

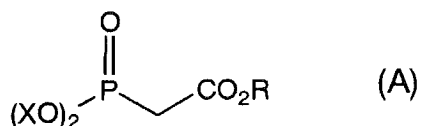
4. (Canceled)

5. (Allowed) A process for producing a compound represented by the following general formula (I):



wherein R represents a linear, branched, or cyclic alkyl having 2 or more carbon atoms or an aryl group comprising:

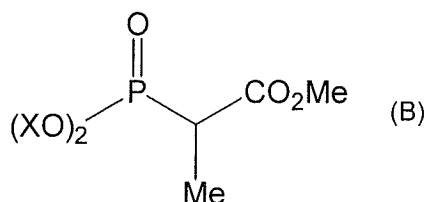
- (1) reacting tetrahydropyran-2-ol with (ethoxycarbonyl ethylidene) triphenylphospholane;
- (2) protecting a free hydroxyl group of the reaction product from (1);
- (3) transforming a hydroxymethyl group of the reaction product from (2) into a formyl group;
- (4) reacting the reaction product from (3) with phosphonoacetic acid ester represented by the following general formula (A):



wherein R and X each represent a linear, branched, or cyclic alkyl or aryl group;

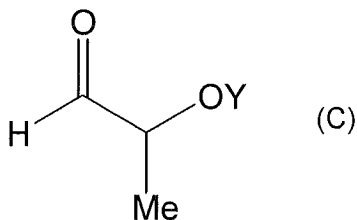
- (5) reacting the reaction product from (4) with a base and acetaldehyde;

- (6) formally dehydrating the reaction product from (5);
 (7) deblocking a protecting group of the reaction product from (6);
 (8) oxidizing the reaction product from (7);
 (9) reacting the reaction product from (8) with phosphonopropionic acid methyl ester represented by the following general formula (B):



wherein X is defined as in (4) above;

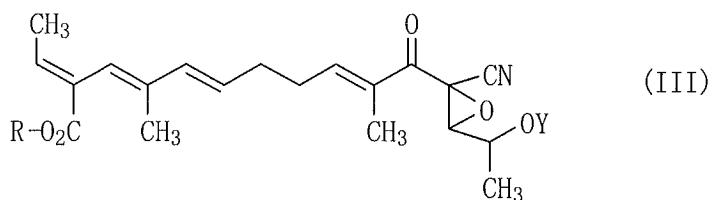
- (10) reacting the reaction product from (9) with acetonitrile in the presence of a base;
 (11) reacting the reaction product from (10) with propanal represented by the following general formula (C):



wherein Y represents a hydroxyl protecting group;

- (12) epoxidizing the reaction product from (11);
 (13) deblocking a protecting group of the reaction product from (12);
 (14) dehydrating a cyano group from the reaction product from (13); and
 (15) lactamizing the reaction product from (14).

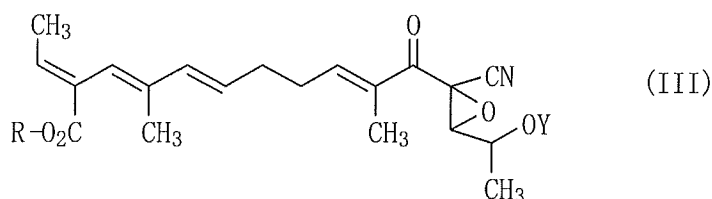
6. (Currently Amended) A compound represented by the following general formula (III):



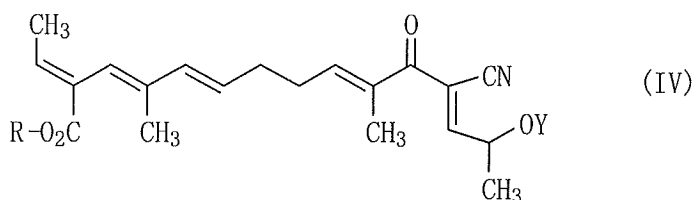
wherein R represents a ~~linear, branched, or cyclic alkyl or aryl group~~ a methyl group, ethyl group, n-propyl group, isopropyl group, n-butyl group, isobutyl group, sec-butyl group, tert-butyl group, n-pentyl group or n-hexyl group and Y represents a ~~hydroxyl protecting group~~ a tert-butyl diphenylsilyl group, a tert-butyl dimethylsilyl group, a triethylsilyl group, a group, a

dimethylethylsilyl group, a tetrahydropyranyl group, an ethoxyethyl group, a methoxymethyl group or a benzyl group.

7. (Allowed) A process for producing a compound represented by the following general formula (III):



wherein R represents a linear, branched, or cyclic alkyl or aryl group and Y represents a hydroxyl protecting group, comprising reacting a compound represented by the following general formula (IV):



wherein R and Y are defined as above for (III), with a peroxide that stereoselectively epoxidizes the compound (IV).

8. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition containing the compound according to claim 3 as an active ingredient and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Allowed) The process according to claim 5, wherein R in the general formula (I) is a linear, branched, or cyclic alkyl group having 2 or more carbon atoms.

11. (Allowed) The process according to claim 5, wherein R in the general formula (I) is a linear, branched or cyclic alkyl group having 2 to 6 carbon atoms.

12. (Allowed) The process according to claim 5, wherein R in the general formula (I) is a tert-butyl group.

13. (Canceled)